



AF/2167
JTL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:) Date: August 19, 2005
Edward P. Daniels, Jr., et al.) Attorney Docket No.: F-170
Serial No.: 09/862,377) Customer No.: 00919
Filed: May 22, 2001) Group Art Unit: 2167
Confirmation No.: 8688) Examiner: Miranda Le
Title: A System And Method For Obtaining And Tracking Up-To-The-Minute
Delivery Locations Of Employees Via A Database System

APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

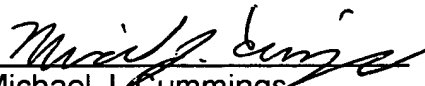
This Reply Brief, filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.41, is submitted in response to the Examiner's Answer dated July 14, 2005. Appellants continue to disagree with the Examiner's application of the asserted reference to the rejected claims, and stand by the arguments made in their Appeal Brief.

In addition, Appellants note that the Examiner's Answer includes a procedural mistake that needs to be addressed. On page 3, under the heading "Grouping of Claims," the Examiner has asserted that all of the claims 1-10 stand or fall together. This is incorrect for two reasons.

First, as noted by the Examiner in her February 11, 2005, Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief, 37 CFR 41.37 includes new requirements. Under that regulation "Grouping of Claims" is no longer required in the Appeal Brief. As such, Appellants request that each claim stand separately on its own merits, as argued in the Appeal Brief.

Second, the Appeal Brief does in fact identify separate grounds for which separate sets of claims should be allowed independently. (See page 4, "Grouping of Claims," and Separate Grounds A and B in the Argument section.) For these reasons it is submitted that claims 1-10 should be considered separately on their own merits, in view of the arguments submitted in the Appeal Brief.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Cummings
Reg. No. 46,650
Attorney for Appellants
Telephone (203) 924-3934


PITNEY BOWES INC.
Intellectual Property and
Technology Law Department
35 Waterview Drive
P.O. Box 3000
Shelton, CT 06484-8000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on August 19, 2005
Date of Deposit


Signature

Cathy Norton
Name of Person Certifying